REMARKS

Claims 36-38 have been cancelled, Claim 31 has been amended, and new Claims 47-55 have been added to point out with more particularity and clarity the subject matter regarded by the Applicants as their invention. Applicants respectfully submit that new Claims 47-55 are supported throughout the application, as shown below.

Claim 31 has been amended to read: "An MN antisense construct comprising **a nucleic acid sequence from which** an MN antisense oligonucleotide **is transcribable, wherein said nucleic acid sequence** is operably linked to an expression control sequence in a vector,. . .". That amendment was made for reasons of greater clarity and particularity, as one of skill in the art understands that an antisense construct would comprise a sequence from which an antisense sequence is transcribed. Alternatively, if the Examiner prefers, the phrase "An MN antisense construct comprising a **nucleic acid sequence encoding** an MN antisense oligonucleotide, **wherein said nucleic acid sequence** is operably linked to an expression control sequence in a vector, . . ." could be substituted in the preamble of Claim 31.

Support for new Claims 47-52

Support for the MN epitopes bound by the polyclonal and humanized antibody claims of claims 47-52 can be found in the instant specification at least at page 12, lines 5-15, wherein the preferred epitopes of MN-specific antibodies are described:

> The invention further is directed to MN-specific antibodies, which can be used diagnostically/prognostically and may be used therapeutically. Preferred according to this invention are MN-specific antibodies reactive with the epitopes represented respectively by the amino acid sequences of the MN protein shown in Figure 15 as follows: from AA 62 to AA 67 [SEQ. ID. NO.: 10]; from AA 55 to AA 60 [SEQ. ID. NO.: 11]; from AA 127 to AA 147 [SEQ. ID. NO.: 12]; from AA 36 to AA 51 [SEQ. ID. NO.: 13]; from AA 69 to AA 83 [SEQ. ID. NO.: 14]; from AA 279 to AA 291 [SEQ. ID. NO.: 15]; and from AA 450 to AA 462 [SEQ. ID. NO.: 16]. More preferred are antibodies reactive with epitopes represented by SEQ. ID. NOS.: 10, 11 and 12. Still more preferred are antibodies reactive with the epitopes represented by SEQ. ID NOS: 10 and 11, as for example, respectively Mabs M75 and MN12. Most preferred are monoclonal antibodies reactive with the epitope represented by SEQ. ID. NO.: 10.

[Instant application, page 12, lines 5-15.] Therefore, the epitopes of new Claims 47-52 are fully supported by the instant specification.

Support for new Claims 53-55

General support for claims 53-55 concerning MN antisense constructs and their use is the same as that previously given at page 43 in the Preliminary Amendment dated March 8, 2004, for claims 31-40 as filed in the instant application.

Exemplary support for claim 53, wherein the expression control sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence derived from the MN promoter, can be found in the instant specification at page 65, line 19 to page 66, line 25, which describes an "antisense" MN cDNA/MN promoter construct used to transfect CGL3 cells, particularly at page 66, lines 1-9:

> For those experiments, the part of the promoter region that was linked to the MN cDNA through BamHI site was derived from NcoI - BamHI fragment of the MN genomic clone and represents the region 233 bp upstream from the transcription initiation site. After the ligation, the joint DNA was inserted into a pBK-CMV expression vector [Stratagene]. The required orientation of the inserted sequence was ensured by directional cloning and subsequently verified by restriction analysis.

[Instant application, page 66, lines 1-9.]

Support for claim 54, wherein the MN antisense oligonucleotide is an oligonucleotide of between 19 to 29 nucleotides in length, can be found at p. 93, line 24 to p. 94, line 8, particularly at page 93, line 26 to page 94, line 5,

which states: "Particularly preferred are the 29-mer ODN1 and 19-mer ODN2 for which the sequences are provided in Example 10, infra. Those antisense ODNS are representative of the many antisense nucleic acid sequences that can function to inhibit MN gene expression."

Support for claim 55, wherein the antisense nucleotide sequence is selected from SEQ ID NOS: 3, 4 and 7, can be found at the least at page 24, lines 12-17 (Figure 3 description); at page 39, lines 17-22 [SEQ ID NO: 7]; at page 93, line 24 to page 94, line 8 in combination with Example 10 [at page 118, line 22 to page 120, line 12], particularly at page 119, lines 4-11 [SEQ ID NOS: 3 and 4].

Applicants respectfully conclude that no new matter has been entered by the above amendments and new claims 47-55.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been entered by the above amendments and the addition of new Claims 47-55 and request that they be entered for the instant application. If the undersigned Attorney for the Applicants can

be of any assistance in regard to this Preliminary Amendment, she can be reached at (415) 981-2034.

Respectfully submitted,

Leona L. Lauder
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 30,863

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